

REMARKS

Claims 3, 4, 6 and 7 have been canceled. Claim 2, and amended claims 1 and 5 are in this application.

Claims 3 and 6 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As indicated above, claims 3 and 6 have been canceled herein. Additionally and as herein below described, the features of claims 3 and 6 have been respectively added herein to independent claims 1 and 5.

Claims 1 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpaentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,940,923 (Ohishi) in view of JP 2000-138722 (Ippei et al.) and in further view of JP 2003-348030 (Hisateru). Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,940,923 (Ohishi ) in view of JP 2000-138722 (Ippei et al.) in view of JP 2003-348030 (Hisateru) and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,999,027 (Yamazaki).

As indicated above, claims 3 and 6 were indicated to be allowable and the features of claims 3 and 6 have been respectively added herein to independent claims 1 and 5. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1 and 5 are allowable. Additionally, it is also respectfully submitted that claim 2 (which is dependent from amended independent claim 1) is allowable.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional rejections and/or objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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